Amendment to H.R. 2810 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018

Offered by: Mr. Lamborn of Colorado

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 2810, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Hypersonic Defense

The budget request contained \$75.3 million in PE 64181C for the development of a defensive system to protect the nation from rapidly evolving hypersonic glide vehicle threats. The committee supports Missile Defense Agency (MDA) plans to develop requirements, conduct necessary engineering, and proceed with experiments that ultimately result in a fielded defensive architecture or system of systems. However, the committee is concerned that the current acquisition approach may increase risk by relying on a single technical approach.

Therefore, the committee directs the Director, MDA, to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives by October 1, 2017 that details the potential benefits, challenges, and associated costs of an acquisition strategy allowing for at least two competitive designs until the operational demonstration. Further, the briefing should address whether this acquisition strategy requires additional funds than the current program of record.